

Moral Twists.

We see these all around us and they are in us. They differ widely in their developments, but they all have the same origin and tend to the same end—depravity is their source and eternal death is their end. This depravity has twisted us away from God and rectitude, and the gospel of Jesus Christ is designed to twist us back again and give us new hearts that we may love God and delight in right living.

It might prove profitable to us to consider some of these moral twistings and seek to apply the remedy that we may escape their appalling deformities and their terrible end.

A most loathsome twistification do we find in the exaggerator. He seems anxious to be clever, and his indignation would know no bounds, if any one should accuse him of intentional and premeditated falsehood. And yet he is constantly telling wonderful stories that absolutely go beyond the limits of human possibility, and puts a tax upon our credulity that is literally oppressive. It may be that his stories refer solely to himself, and he is the hero of the last one of them, and they do not injure others, yet they are false and he must know it. And so far has he become twisted out of the fine of truthfulness that his conscience does not seem to disturb him in his shameful habit of lying.

We also behold a sad case of this moral twistification in the man who coolly and calmly lies to other people's expense. He claims to be honest, desires to be considered honest by others, and he would be full of resentful wrath if we should dare call him a thief or accuse him of downright fraud and swindling. And yet he gracefully and habitually absorbs whatever comes within his grasp. He borrows and pays back again in promises that seem to be made to be forgotten. He buys on credit and forgets his bills, and thus he allows debt after debt to accumulate upon him and makes no effort to pay the first one of them. He lives well, yes, far better than some really honest people, and he is so far twisted from genuine integrity that his accommodating conscience never rebukes him for what truly honest people call stealing.

Again we see how selfishness can twist the noble and generous impulses out of a man until he is really covetous, and so lives for himself, has so inordinate a love for himself that he truly becomes a self-worshiper—a real idolater.

A more fatal development of depraved twistification is seldom found on the earth than in the life and character of the false promiser. He is more ready to subscribe than to pay his subscription, and not onetime part so ready to make good his promises as were they, and he vows that he means it all. He is never quite ready, but he will do so very soon. He is usually shingled over with pledges to various objects, and yet his good conscience never rebukes him for his falsehoods in promising what he never makes good.

Many have been called a religious animal and many who are charged with these moral twistifications have strong religious impulses and they come stepping over into the church, and some even find their way into the pulpit. They fail to distinguish between mere religion and genuine piety, forgetting that a man may abound in the former and be entirely devoid of the latter. They are often quite demonstrative in their religious lives, and would set themselves forth as the true friends and representatives of Christianity, while really in the practices of their lives they most fearfully misrepresent it. It is the work of the gospel to remove these twists and set us aright. If these things were in us before we became the disciples of Christ, the religion of Jesus Christ must so reconstruct and readjust our moral nature that we shall escape these evils and become upright and true.

Some of the twisting kind joined the churches in Paul's day, and he taught them that they must change their ways. He said: "Let him that stole, steal no more." "Provide things honest in the sight of all men." The destructive curse that fell on Ananias and his wife manifests God's displeasure against duplicity in our promises. We are commanded to love and walk in the truth, and thus the teachings of the gospel clearly come in direct conflict with all the developments of human depravity and demand renewed hearts and a newness of life that is delivered from these departures from a high standard of true Christian morality. And let us sink down into our hearts that when we embrace the gospel, if it fails to secure sufficient grip upon our hearts to free us from these moral twistifications, then it has not sufficient hold upon us to save us. Paul gave a long catalogue of these twistifications in his letters to the Corinthians and Galatians and Ephesians, and adds that none guilty of these "shall inherit the kingdom of God." To his Corinthian brethren, after naming these depraved characters, he adds: "And such were some of you; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." This fully exhibits the power of the

power and dominion of sin. Dear reader, has your union with Christ delivered you from these evils of your own heart, brought your life into conformity with the life and character of Christ? If you have doubts on this point, read the New Testament carefully and mark those who have no interest in the kingdom of God, and honestly and faithfully decide whether you are among the saved or lost. If among the saved then rejoice, but if among the lost then make haste to fall at the feet of Jesus and commit thy heart to him. He, and he alone, can deliver thy soul from guilt and death. And this deliverance will be made manifest by right doing and right living.—Central Baptist.

The above, we think, bears the footprints of Brother Hatcher, who for five years lived in Keytesville, and was pastor of the Baptist church. He is now doing a good work for the Central Baptist. We candidly believe this paper ought to be in every Baptist family in the State. In fact we think no family ought to be without some good religious paper. Brother Hatcher has many warm personal friends in this place, who always welcome his return among them, even if it is only for a favorite letter—a duck hunt. A private letter from him informs us that he expects to be at New Hope church the first Saturday and Sunday in April, and to preach in Keytesville on the Monday following. We say to him, come on our lath strings, using a Western phrase, hangs on the outside.

Assassinated.

R. G. Craighead was called from his house, three miles out of Fulton, one night last week by an unknown man, who claimed his wagon was fast in the mud below the yard. Mr. Craighead went to assist him, and in a few moments his wife heard four pistol shots. Rushing to the spot from whence they came she found her husband dead and the murderer gone. No lead has been obtained as yet as to who did this awful deed. Great excitement prevails, as Mr. Craighead was one of the best citizens in the county and held the office of county assessor for years. Should the murderer be caught there is strong probability of a lynching.

Messrs. Jas. Reckinbaugh and P. S. Adams, of Fulton, arrived at Jefferson City Wednesday night of last week for the purpose of getting the governor to offer a reward for the apprehension of the unknown murderer of Robert D. Craighead. Mr. Reckinbaugh's account of the crime is in substance as follows: Mr. Craighead, who was a well-to-do farmer, living two miles south of Fulton, returned home from town where he had been all day, about 8 o'clock last night. A few moments after he arrived, and while in the rear of his house, a stranger came to the fence and called out for him. Mrs. Craighead, hearing the voice, went to the front door and asked what was wanted. The reply was that Collins' wagon was wired down the road and Craighead was wanted to help get it out. Mrs. Craighead did not recognize the man, but noticed he was white, and called for her husband, who learning from her why he was wanted, left the house, following the stranger down the road some two hundred yards. A few moments after five shots were heard, fired in rapid succession, and Mrs. Craighead heard her husband's voice calling for help. The shots were called by two neighbors living close by, who immediately ran to the spot and found Craighead lying in the road dying, and his murderer gone. Mr. Craighead died in a few moments, without speaking.

The neighborhood was at once aroused and parties left immediately in every direction in pursuit of the murderer. The search was kept up all night, and to-day the woods were searched in every direction, but without success. There is yet no clew to who committed the deed. Mr. Craighead was a prominent citizen and was not known to have an enemy in the world. Upon examining the body, it was found that one bullet had passed through the left wrist and lodged in the shoulder, and another had entered the right breast, and this was the fatal shot. Mr. Craighead was entirely unarmed at the time, so the shots were fired by the murderer. The part of the road where the crime was committed showed evidence of a fierce struggle, the ground being soft. The name of Collins, used by the assassin, is that of a well-known neighbor, who is daily engaged in hauling wood by Craighead's house, and the using of that name to induce Craighead to leave his house, shows that the murderer was well acquainted with the neighborhood and of Collins' custom of hauling on that road daily, and took that means of insuring a prompt compliance from Craighead to the request to help get the wagon out of the mud.

The citizens of Callaway have no idea of any motive for the murder. The whole town is aroused and no means will be left untried to find and bring the murderer to justice. Mr. Craighead leaves a wife and two adopted children. The governor has taken the matter of offering a reward under consideration, deeming it advisable to await the action of the county court, which should first offer a reward if the murderer cannot be apprehended by the ordinary process.—Republican.

"Women," it is said, "jump at conclusions." We never heard inter-

History of Mad Stones.

An inquiry into the history of these stones made by one who has devoted much study to the subject of hydrophobia shows that they are not very numerous. He said: "There are about a dozen of them in the United States. Many thousands of intelligent people are ready to trust them in preference to all other remedies. Many thousands have trusted them, and I shall be happy to refer you to cases in which they have been successfully used."

"There are two theories as to their origin. One is that they are chemically formed in the stomach of the deer, after the manner of calculi in the bladder and kidneys. Another, and I think more plausible, and supported by their history and appearance, is that they are mineral products. Both kinds may exist, however."

"There is a tradition among the owners of these gems, more valuable than the Koh-i-noor, that they are found in Italy on the shores of the Mediterranean. Some have come from Germany, others from South America. In India similar stones are kept in the temples of the priests for the benefit of persons bitten by the venomous serpents and are called by them snake-stones."

"Over 200 years ago they were spoken of by the French medical authorities. Prichard, an old French medical authority, says of their discovery that the best and most reliable information is that the mad stone was discovered many years ago in Switzerland by some young men herding stock. One of them was bitten on the hand by a poisonous reptile. A porous stone, which they were throwing for amusement, was laid on the swollen and painful spot. To their amazement, it afforded immediate relief. This led to the discovery of a number of similar stones, which have been scattered all over the world. This adds one more to the accidental discoveries which have benefited the world."

The shirt-collar, says an exchange, originated in fraud and hypocrisy. In the days when men first wore linen, it came to be the fashion to leave more or less of that linen exposed at the neck to prove the cleanliness of that underneath. This naturally took the form of the collar. Then a genius caught on the idea of cutting out a separate piece of linen in the shape of the overhanging part and affixing it to the top of the shirt. These bits of linen could be put on clean every day, thus giving the public the impression that he represented the cleanliness of the unseen garment, to which they were attached. They were in effect fraudulent certificates of such cleanliness. Hence the collar is but a base subterfuge of ancient origin. It is as the gold wash on the pinchbeck jewelry, the rough on a dead complexion, or the voluptuous outline of a new pair of corsets. The collar is a useful aid to the cravat in strangling the neck and making it unduly sensitive to cold. The collar did not attain its perfection of fraudulence and the height of its magnificent hypocrisy until stereo was invented to gloss and stiffen it. When this happened, mankind forgets that it was a cheat. The collar is an unmitigated nuisance in hot weather, and of very little protection in cold. It is a joy to the young man, and a nuisance to the old one.

One of the secrets of the prosperity of the French people, and their ability to bear even the heaviest burdens without giving way under them, is the extraordinary thoroughness with which they cultivate their farms, vineyards and orchards, and the profits which they contrive to obtain from the smallest and seemingly insignificant products. We find a fresh exemplification of this in figures recently published in an exchange exhibiting the extent and profits of chicken raising. "There are in France about 10,000,000 fowls, valued at \$20,000,000. One-fifth are marketed yearly for the table, bringing about 4,000,000. The annual production of chickens is 80,000,000, worth in the city market \$24,000,000, and \$2,000,000 are added for the extra value of capons and fatted hens. The production of eggs is estimated at \$40,000,000, making the total value of eggs and chickens \$80,000,000, \$2.21 to every man, woman and child in France. The power to make much out of little, and to live frugally on small means," and with limited resources to "call back on the distinguishing trait of the French people, and no worth emulating."

While the plague was raging in Buenos Ayres the grave-diggers bore charmed lives. Of the three hundred men so employed, not one died of the disease. It has often been noticed that during the prevalence of pestilential diseases physicians, undertakers, nurses and grave-diggers, whose business compelled constant liability to infection, have usually escaped in a far greater ratio than their numbers would warrant. The "charm" of the immunity from the prevailing scourge is very simple. They are not scared. They are positive to the disease, and repel its attacks. Fear is a great ally of death. Whoever is afraid of disease is in a negative position and really invites its approach. And thus it is the world over. The brave die but once, while cowards alarm exists in every community in regard to many diseases. But if we are all sober, cleanly and brave of heart, we need have no fear of disease of body or

From Cunningham.

—There has been nothing strange or thrilling occurred in Cunningham recently. Everything is on the move. Our streets are continually crowded with farmers, who come in to trade; and commercial men are continually on our streets to sell our merchants their goods, wares and merchandise. Indeed, Cunningham is a live town, and traveling men say there is more commercial traveling men come here than to any town of its size in the State. It is a fast town, and is keeping up with the spirit of the age in the way of internal improvements. Among the recently erected buildings here is the large and commodious store building of R. McAllister, Stombough's opera house, the large and well-constructed livery, feed and sale stable of Thomas Dobbins, the bank building, the Christian Church, the large and finely constructed school building now in course of construction, many residences and other buildings. And while it is a fast town, and has many sterling business men, yet there are many industrial pursuits not represented, among us which is a good patent roller merchant mill. We are in the midst of a fine wheat growing section. The acreage in this part of the county is large, and the prospects for a good crop is good, and it is said that the statistics show that there is more stock and grain shipped from Cunningham station than any station on the Wabash line. Therefore those desiring a location for a patent roller merchant mill would do well to look at this location, as there is no mill of the kind within a radius of twenty-five miles, and we are compelled to pay transportation on our breadstuffs both ways, when this profit might well be made by a miller, and would yield him a handsome profit, and at the same time yield a better price to the producer and consumer. There are many other industries not represented here, among which is a merchant tailor, a baker and confectioner, gun smith, dress maker and many other vocations, including common laborers, both male and female, as those wishing employment can at all times find it here at fair wages.

—The political caldron is commencing to boil in this part of the county, and Cunningham township will be heard from in the next political contest, and while some may say county elections has nothing to do with national politics, yet our people think differently, and are determined to cast their votes for no aspirant to office whose views are not in accordance with their own on the great and vital issues now before the country—both state and national. We are for equal rights to all; special privileges to none; the bondholder and plowholder to fair alike in taxation; the abolishment of the national bank, substituting greenbacks in its stead, making them pay for all debts, public and private, including duties on imports, and their issuance be adequate in volume to the business wants of the country, and while we have many in all political parts that are for free trade, we will stop at nothing short of a tariff for revenue only. The above resolutions are a part of the resolutions passed by a Livingston County (Mass.) Convention in 1878. The country at that time was in great financial distress, and bleeding financially at every pore. Thousands of mechanics were thrown out of employment, as the currency had been steadily contracted under the pretext of specie resumption until there was not money enough in circulation to answer the business wants of the country. In 1868 there was \$62.27 per capita, and in 1878 we had only \$10.19 per capita. The contraction of the currency had reduced values that had been made the standard instead of real estate; consequently land and farm products were almost valueless so far as sales were concerned. Land that sold for \$50 per acre ordinarily was reduced in price to \$5 or \$6 per acre, and, in fact, there was a time during 1878 that land could not be sold at any price, as capitalists had invested the last dollar; they could raise in these depreciated lands, and there was no money to be had. Then we would say to our people neither nominate or elect any man for offices of honor or trust from representative down to corvée, unless he is right on the vital issues now before the country.

—The Forhan dramatic and comedy theatrical company played in Stombough's opera house during the past week.

A Virginia girl married a tramp. He turned out to be a duke. Those Virginia girls are always ahead. Other American girls generally marry foreign lords who turn out to be vagabonds.

This United States never has issued a \$50 gold coin. An octagonal piece worth \$50, known as a "slug," was coined in San Francisco in 1852, and circulated for a time on the Pacific coast.

Mr. Blake says "women want more privileges." We don't just see how they can be given her, unless she is allowed one whole side of the street car and all the sidewalk.

It has been discovered that a Tennessee man has four living wives. He certainly has no excuse for not always having at least one clean shirt for an emergency.

No woman in Detroit has yet applied for a license as steamboat captain, but lots of 'em feel perfectly confident to run the state govern-

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First—Control the railroad and other public corporations by stringent laws—make them pay on the value of their property as evidenced by their stocks and bonds on which they pay interest. We hold, for instance, that the Missouri Pacific system, having 600 miles of road in Missouri, valued at and paying 7 1/2 per cent. net interest on \$65,000,000, should certainly pay taxes on more than \$2,475,000 valuation at present. We hold that the people of Kansas should not be compelled to give such rates for transporting their products as will pay interest on watered stock and bogus bonds to the amount of \$350,000 per mile, as is now paid on the Kansas Pacific railroad.

Second—Revision of the present inequitable tariff laws by which \$100,000,000 more than necessary for governmental purposes are annually extorted from the people. Free trade cannot be free for western farmers.

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